

Violence on domestic helpers

***70. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:** Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of violence on domestic helpers are on rise in recent times;

(b) whether Government will agree to conduct a nation wide survey on conditions of minors engaged as domestic helpers; and

(c) the actions being taken for rehabilitation of minors working as domestic helpers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Government has recently issued a Notification prohibiting employment of children in the following two Occupations with effect from 10.10.06.

(i) Employment of children as domestic workers/servants

(ii) Employment of children in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, spas and other recreational centres etc.

These two occupations have been prohibited on the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which is headed by the Director General, Indian Council for Medical Research and has various other experts like Director, National Institute of Occupational Health, Director General, Factory Advice Services Labour Institute, Mumbai, Head of Paediatrics Department, AIIMS, Additional Director General, Health Services etc.

Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States in the country. Under the Scheme, there is provision for conducting child labour survey in the districts where NCLP scheme is under implementation. Another, 21 districts have been taken up under the INDUS project, an Indo-US Child Labour Project. Government is contemplating to conduct a survey in all districts of the country during the Eleventh Plan Period on the number of children working in hazardous occupations and processes including domestic child labour.

Under the NCLP Scheme, children withdrawn from work are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care etc. In

addition, to take care of the special needs of the children who would be withdrawn from work from these two occupations, Children/Shelter Homes set up under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 would also be utilized. In addition, Childline, an emergency toll free helpline under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, would be used to provide immediate help to these children.

Selling of children from 'Bal Sudhar Grih'

†*71. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of giving 'on hire/selling of children' from 'Bal Sudhar Grih' (Children Reform Homes) have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether Government would make arrangements for monitoring activities of 'Bal Sudhar Grihs'; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Bal Sudhar Grih (Children Reform Homes) are regulated under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. As and when, any violation of the Act comes to the notice of the Government, the matter is referred to the concerned State Government/UT administration for appropriate action. One such case about the possibility of children being given on hire/selling from such institutions has been referred to the Government of NCT of Delhi for appropriate action as per the law.

(c) and (d) Arrangements for monitoring activities of homes under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 are as under:

- (i) Section 34 provides for registration of all Institutions for children in need of care and protection, whether run by the State Government or by Voluntary Organizations by the State Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.